# 'Laugh and Learn': Using video to engage with young people about sexual health

Joanna Collins<sup>1</sup> and Elizabeth Tyndall<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Program Communicable Disease Control Directorate Department of Health WA

> <sup>2</sup> Communications Directorate Department of Health WA

## Background

- WA Health has developed five short videos to educate young people aged 13-17 in WA about a range of sexual health and blood-borne virus related topics.
- New digital media such as social networking sites, websites and videos provide innovative platforms for engaging young people in sexual health education.
- Young people are identified as a priority population in the 2015-2018 WA STI Strategy, with a key action area being Prevention and Education.

# **Project Overview**

- Aim: The development of a video resource and accompanying teacher resources which educate young people about sexual health and blood-borne viruses
- Target group: Young people aged 13-17 years in WA
- Launch date: September 2017
- Video development budget: \$30,000
- Key topics: puberty, safe sex, respectful relationships, and blood-borne virus safety

#### Youth Consultation

- Focus groups with year 7 to 10 students at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls and Butler College (50 participants).
- Online survey (107 participants).
- Most young people watch funny videos online.
- The majority of young people would go online to find sexual health information.
- A government website is seen as a trustworthy resource.
- Humour is a good way to keep an audience entertained.

### Youth Consultation

Safe sex

Puberty

Respectful relationships

Sex and the law

Sex and the media

Gender and sexual diversity

Using the healthcare system

#### Video Production

 ABC's You're Skitting Me – right audience, right tone

 Resulted in collaboration with You're Skitting Me cast members, script writers and production team who followed our content brief

## 'Laugh and Learn': The Final Product

- Five youth videos were launched in September 2017
- Hosted on '<u>Laugh</u>
   and <u>learn</u>' web
   page on
   getthefacts.com.au



#### Youth Video Promotion

- Online approach to drive visitors to getthefacts.com.au to watch the videos
- Target audience: 13 to 17 year olds in WA
- Media budget: \$9,000
- Timing: September to October 2017

#### Collateral

- Cut down 30 second 'pre-roll' videos for YouTube
  - Blood-borne virus safety
  - Puberty
- Teaser 10 second
   Snapchat video
- Instagram image



## Youth Video Analytics

A high level of youth video engagement was achieved:

- Nearly 30,000 pre-roll video views
- More than 3000 video views via the campaign web page
- Just over 1 million targeted campaign impressions and nearly 170,000 individual people reached
- Nearly 8,000 people clicked through to the website
- High click through rate of 1.59% (industry standard as at Aug 2017 = 0.04%)
- More than 1,000 people engaged with the content via social comments, shares, likes or reactions

## Conclusion

- Video is an engaging and well-responded to method of communicating with young people about sexual health and blood-borne viruses.
- A high reach was achieved within the target group, potentially contributing to awareness around sexual health and blood-borne virus topics among young people.
- Teacher resources are being developed to ensure understanding of the video topics among young people.

#### What's next?

 More videos! New topics will be sexual and gender diversity, sex and the media, and pornography.

# Acknowledgements

- Kathryn Kerry and Meagan Roberts
- Cordell Jigsaw Productions (CJZ)
- St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls and Butler College

## Questions?

**Contact Details:** 

Joanna Collins
Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Program
WA Department of Health

Joanna.Collins@health.wa.gov.au (08) 9388 4855